

Orange County Tribune

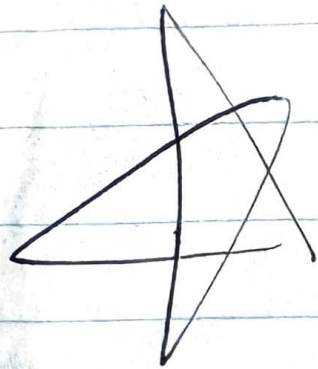
Wed, Nov. 13, 1912

Brea

Cashier A. J. Olsen of the La Habra Valley Bank sold the lot to Mrs. Babbitt on which the new hotel will be erected.

Brian - I think there is an unbuilt hotel. Mention in other articles about 1 No. of

address of hotel  
106 1/2



In 1914 Hotel Brea  
so listed in Thurston's  
Directory - North Orange  
County  
at Fullerton Library

Brea Hotel listed 1927

1937 New Hotel Sherman  
106 N. Pomona  
1938 Hotel Brea 106 N Pomona

1928  
1929  
1930  
31  
32

up to that time  
Hotel Brea  
(1914) + 1919-26

No 33 no 34 no 35 No 36

RM22

Please comment  
Thank you

La Habra Star  
Mon April 25, 1930

The Brea Hotel property at the north edge of the business district on Romona avenue has been traded to Dr. Francis Marshall of Garden Grove for a 200-acre farm in Missouri. The Brea property consists of 24 hotel rooms on the second floor and five store rooms on the ground floor, most of the latter being vacant.

# LANDMARK MAY GO DOWN IN HISTORY

**PRESERVATION:** Repairs to the 1913 Brea Hotel are too expensive, planners say, so demolition looms.

OCT. 20, 1998

By ERIC CARPENTER  
The Orange County Register  
From Brea

The last original downtown building standing in this city seems headed for a date with a wrecking ball.

The old Brea Hotel, opened in 1913, has fallen into such disrepair that preservation costs are 60 times more than destruction.

The Brea City Council is scheduled to consider a proposal tonight to demolish the Brea Boulevard hotel.

"At this point, I just don't see any way to preserve it," Councilman Burnie Dunlap said.

The dilapidated building needs \$1.5 million in improvements. Demolition would cost \$24,900.

If the hotel does go, 20 townhouses might eventually fill the surrounding block.

The possibility of losing the only re-

maining piece of Brea's historic downtown disheartens some residents.

Already, they have seen many old structures razed to make way for shopping centers and entertainment complexes.

"I understand they don't think it's worth saving," said Wilma Sauer, a Brea resident for 34 years. "But I think it's part of our history. There's not much left, and I'm sorry about that."

The Brea Hotel was to become part of a Heritage Block, a row of historic buildings within the downtown redevelopment zone.

But the two other buildings intended for the block were demolished in recent years when they could not be relocated.

The city has worked with local preservationists since 1991 to find donations or grants for the hotel, but efforts fizzled.

"We've gone out of our way to try to save the hotel," said Lisa Donnell, senior planner. "But nothing worked."

► **PAST:** The Brea Hotel was once "the center of everything." **Metro 5**



EUGENE GARCIA/The Orange County Register

**NOW AND THEN:** Brea Hotel, decked out in bunting during its glory days, above, now sits ready for demolition, below, on Brea Boulevard.

ing of the welcomed of migrant oil workers looking for an inexpensive place to stay.

The two-story building, originally called the Kinsler Hotel, immediately flourished and helped bring more businesses into Brea's downtown.

"That area became the center of everything in Brea," said Sharon Dean, a 54-year resident and former Brea Historical Society president.

In the mid-1930s, the hotel got a new name — The Sherman — and a new look. Wood siding was hidden by stucco and awnings were added. The first floor was converted to retail space, eventually occupied by a barber shop and a pool room.

## lines walls of Brea Hotel

### ON METRO 1

The Brea Hotel, opened in 1913, seems destined for demolition since repair costs are 60 times more expensive than destruction. **Story on Metro 1**

way to save the hotel in 1991, when it launched a 60-acre downtown redevelopment.

The hotel was to be one of several buildings moved to a 1.2-acre Heritage Block, then fixed up. Four historic homes were relocated to Redwood Avenue. But the commercial buildings were not as fortunate. The Wall building burned down. Sam's Place and La Habra Valley Bank were too rickety to move and were destroyed.

"The hotel may not be able to be saved," Dean said. "But we need to find a place to recognize Brea's history."

Need for the hotel waned as bigger and more luxurious competitors moved in. But even after the hotel's closing, the building remained a reminder of Brea's early days and continued to serve as a retail center.

These days, the building is crumbling.

It was just strong enough to survive a 1996 move down Brea Boulevard to the road's intersection with Ash Street. Now the hotel, the city's last historic commercial building, faces demolition. City Council members will consider its destruction tonight.

City officials said efforts to preserve the building failed to attract sufficient funding.

The city began looking for a

# Fate of old hotel is bleak

APRIL 9, 1998

City Council agrees to look for other uses

By Vanessa Jezin  
Brea Progress

The old Brea Hotel — the last of the original downtown buildings still standing on Brea Boulevard — is closer to being a thing of the past.

At Tuesday's City Council meeting, council members received a report from city staff which concluded that a last ditch effort failed to get money to renovate the dilapidated structure.

City Manager Frank Benest said staff will propose alternative uses for the property within 30 days.

"The interior is literally terrible," Benest said, referring to slides which showed pictures of the building. "There's dry rot, structural problems ... It's current condition is not suited for residential or retail (use)."

The city moved the 86-year-old building in 1996 to its current location at North Brea Boulevard and Ash Street when Brea Boulevard was widened.

City Planner Jay Trevino said the last hope of saving the building was trying to get grants to fund the hotel's restoration.

"There are not many grants available, and those that are are highly competitive," Trevino said.

Councilmember Glenn Parker said the city has exhausted every effort to preserve the building.



ALEX GARCIA / Los Angeles Times

Karen Cole of Newport Beach remembers visits with her grandmother at the Brea Hotel, which is being demolished.

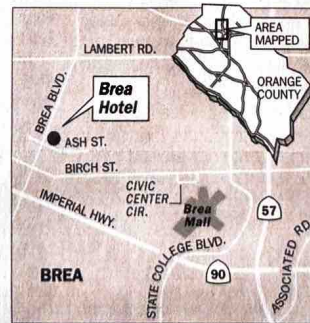
## Dislodged History

### Brea Hotel Falls Victim to Unexceptional Past, Present State of Disrepair

By JEFF GOTTLIEB  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Karen Cole was driving home from business in Diamond Bar recently when something clicked as she passed the Brea Canyon Road exit on the Orange Freeway.

As she pulled off the freeway, it all felt so familiar, even though it had been nearly 40 years since she had last been in Brea. Without



Los Angeles Times

"It's my farthest back memory of my grandma," Cole said.

Soon that memory will be all Cole has. The Brea Hotel, the last commercial building left from Brea's old downtown, is being demolished. Despite numerous efforts, it was impossible to build support for a building that lacks a glitzy past and sits in the shadow of the symbol of modern Brea: The Birch Street Promenade, with its 22-screen Edwards Cinema, restaurants, shops and two parking structures with 1,900 spaces, is being built just up the street.

Jane O'Brien, president of the Brea Historical Society, said she is saddened that this piece of history will be lost. "It's really a shame that it's going down, but I can understand it. The

## HOTEL

Continued from B1

redevelopment plan to build a heritage square made up of the city's oldest buildings. The hotel was even moved 100 feet north and 30 feet east—at a cost of \$191,000—to make way for the widening of Brea Boulevard.

But now, the hotel will be torn down. The city has not been able to find enough grant money to give it new life, and no developer has come forward with an acceptable plan for the aging structure.

Built in 1913, the Brea was never the Ritz. At first, workers in nearby oil fields lived there, and eventually it became a residential hotel for older men. No one has lived there for about 20 years, and the shops on the first floor moved out eight or nine years ago.

Today, the hotel sits alone, buffered by empty lots on either side, surrounded by a chain-link fence.

Clara Wright, Cole's grandmother, owned the hotel from 1950 to 1960. Each week, Cole's mother would drive her and her sister from their home in West Covina to Brea to visit their grandmother before the children went to their ballet and tap lessons down the street.

Cole remembered walking past the men sitting in the lobby, past the water cooler and going up the stairs to her grandmother's room. "I cried when I pictured her bedroom window," she said. "In those days you could just about open the window and fall out."

Cole's family moved to Arizona when she was 6, but she returned to Orange County to work as a human resources consultant for an Irvine accounting firm. Her grandmother died in 1986, at 94.

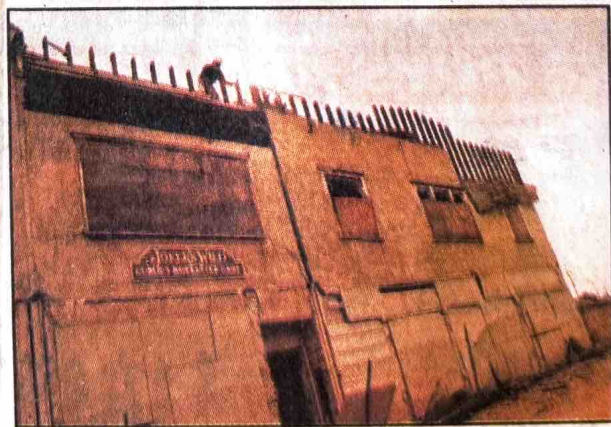
A few years ago, Cole's husband, Greg, who arranges financing for commercial development, spent some time in Brea on a project. He had told his wife that he had driven by the hotel, and she thought about



Photos by **BRUCE CHAMBERS**/The Orange County Register

## BREA HOTEL GOING DOWN, BOARD BY BOARD

Umberto Arngulo, above, wields his pick Tuesday to remove the facade at the top of the old Brea Hotel as workers begin demolition of the last original downtown structure in Brea. On Thursday, a bulldozer will knock down the hotel at Brea Boulevard and Ash Street. Preservationists had wanted to restore the building, which was built in 1913, but the City Council opted for demolition.



**ROOF REMOVAL:** A worker helps to take apart the roof of the old Brea Hotel on Tuesday. The boards were salvaged for reuse.

# CHECKING OUT

Ongoing demolition of Brea Hotel paving way for townhomes

By Vanessa Jezin  
Brea Progress

**D**irt and some wooden boards will soon be all that remains at the south corner of Brea Boulevard where the Brea Hotel stands.

Demolition was set to culminate this week after two weeks of asbestos removal cleared the way for a project that includes more housing for Brea's urban downtown.

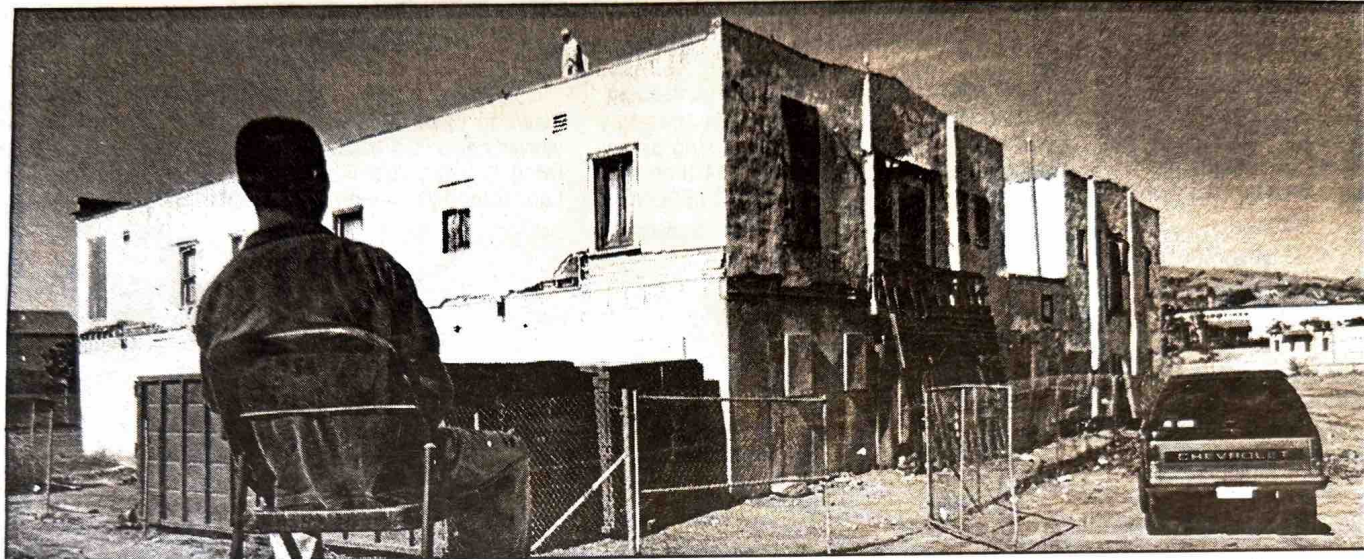
Before long, the soon-to-be vacant lot will bustle with construction workers developing the 40 townhouses planned for the site.

The south side of Brea Boulevard will contain 20 townhouse units, with 20 more to be built on Orange Avenue, acting as a buffer between planned retail stores on Birch Street and existing homes.

Each unit will comprise three bedrooms for an average of 1,332 square feet, and is expected to sell for between \$180,000 and \$250,000.

The area will also see construction of a fire station to the north of the planned townhouses on Brea Boulevard to accommodate the expected influx of residents and patrons of the new downtown currently under construction.

Approval of the project by the Planning Commission had been set for Nov. 10, but was delayed



LEFT: Alfred Munoz, an on-site inspector hired through the City of Brea, watches asbestos removal at the soon-to-disappear Old Brea Hotel.





# History lines walls of Brea Hotel

**CITIES:** The building was once the 'center of everything' in Brea's historic downtown.

By **ERIC CARPENTER**  
The Orange County Register

BREA — The opening of the Brea Hotel in 1913 was welcomed by a growing number of migrant oil workers looking for an inexpensive place to stay.

The two-story building, originally called the Kinsler Hotel, immediately flourished and helped bring more businesses into Brea's downtown.

"That area became the center of everything in Brea," said Sharon Dean, a 54-year resident and former Brea Historical Society president.

In the mid-1930s, the hotel got a new name — The Sherman — and a new look. Wood siding was hidden by stucco and awnings were added. The first floor was converted to retail space, eventually occupied by a barber shop and a pool room.

## ON METRO 1

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The possibility of losing the only re-

# HOTEL TO VACATE

**Council's 4-0 vote means the city's last original downtown structure is doomed**

By **Vanessa Jazin**  
Brea Progress

A prominent piece of Brea's history — the last original downtown building — is set to become a thing of the past.

Two years of seeking funding and alternatives to save the Brea Hotel ended Tuesday when the City Council voted 4-0 to demolish the 86-year-old building. Councilwoman Bev Perry was

absent.

A contract was awarded to C. R. Gann Demolition Inc. for asbestos removal and demolition of the hotel, and a draft supplement to the Program Environmental Impact Report for the City's Downtown Master Plan was approved.

The council action ratified the Planning Commission's Oct. 13 recommendation to demolish the hotel.

Failure to obtain funding for preservation of the dilapidated building — an estimated 60 times costlier than destruction — led to its doom, according to city staff.

"We've concluded financial infeasibility; therefore, demolition

is unavoidable," said City Manager Frank Benest. The hotel needed \$1.5 million in improvements; demolition costs \$24,900.

Built in 1913, the hotel was to have become part of Heritage Block — a row of historic buildings including the old Sam's Place and La Habra Valley Bank — for a revitalized downtown. Deemed structurally unsound, the latter buildings were demolished.

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 22, 1998**

On Oct. 13, a presentation to the Planning Commission revealed plans for 20 townhouses and a fire station at the hotel's site.



**EUGENE GARCIA**/The Orange County Register

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▶ **PAST:** The Brea Hotel was once "the center of everything." **Metro 5**

# BREA PROGRESS

THE SOUTHWEST COUNTY  
**Register**

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24, 1992

NORTH COUNTY NEWS

## POLITICS

### A look at the candidates

We head our new  
Board of City  
Council candidates  
page 12

## TEACHER

### Presidential honors

A teacher from  
Brea has been  
named a  
National Teacher

## CONTEST

### Promoting awareness

The Brea  
Society is holding  
contest for  
AIDS awareness

## STEPPING OUT

## PRESERVATION

# Brea Hotel hit by fire: arson possible

By Brian Hall  
North County News

Another piece of city history caught fire last week.

As with three other buildings slated for preservation, the possibility of arson is being investigated for the Thursday night blaze at the Brea Hotel, 168 1/2 Brea Blvd.

Three Brea engines responded to the fire along with a platform truck from Fullerton, which put personnel on the roof to ventilate

The call came at 8:50 p.m., and it took 5 1/2 minutes for units to arrive. The hotel, built in 1913, might have kept burning if a police officer hadn't been writing a drunken driving citation on the street.

"He just happened to look up and see smoke coming out of the window," said battalion chief Jim Parker of the Brea Fire Department.

"He called us. And by the time we arrived, there were flames shooting out of both the involved

room windows."

Fire officials estimate damage at the boarded-up hotel to be \$45,000.

The front exterior was blackened. And there was damage to ceiling joists, rafters, two rooms and part of a hallway, Parker said. Roger Michelotti, 49, described as a transient, was discovered occupying a room, which Parker said was the furthest from the fire.

"He appeared stunned," Fire Marshal Bill Simpkins said.

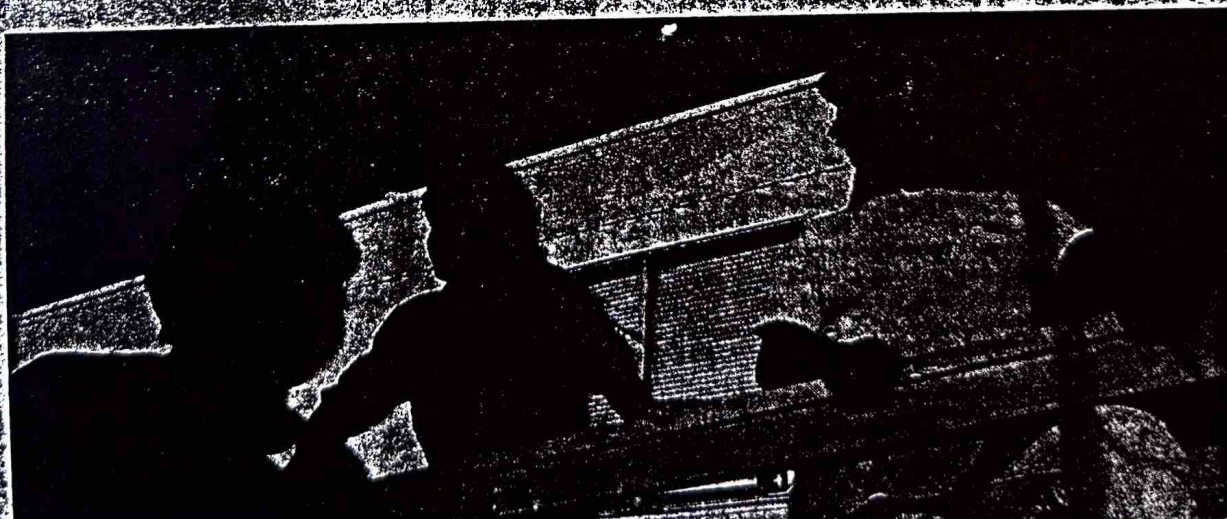
"He said he didn't know a fire was going on and only woke to the sound of the arriving engines."

The hotel is on the Brea Historical Committee's list of buildings to be moved to a historic block for preservation in the new downtown. It had been boarded up for months by the city's Redevelopment Agency. But Michelotti claimed he was given permission to stay there.

The fire department is contact

Please see HOTEL 13

## LABOR



## BUSINESS

# Fees add up in land litigation

## Draws ire of Small Business Coalition

By Brian Hall  
North County News

This year it may cost up to \$350,000 in legal fees to con-

# HOTEL: Arson suspected

FROM A1

ing the caretaker to verify his story.

Parker said Michelotti probably gained access by pulling out a board or breaking a window.

The building is now completely boarded and sealed. Authorities declined to say whether Michelotti is the sole arson suspect. He was arrested on an unrelated, outstanding warrant for grand theft.

Brian Saul of the Historical Committee said that while it's a setback, the group still plans to relocate the building to the historic block.

He added that the burned front and much of the gutted inside would have been replaced anyway, the front to bring the hotel back to original style, and the interior to meet current codes.

"It's going to be the show place

of the historic block because so few people know how beautiful it originally looked," Saul said.

Previously, the Wall building, Brea's oldest commercial structure that had been considered for a historic park, was gutted inside and ravaged on the outside.

"Parts were still standing. But it was in cinders," Saul said.

The interior of the Craig building burned, and a residence on Sievers Avenue, the Daugherty house, also was gutted.

**We need you.**



**American Heart Association**



**Whittier Medical Center**

Your Community Doctor

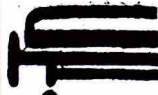
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J. P. Burnison has purchased the home at 325 South Walnut from the Mutual Building & Loan and has moved there from the corner of Imperial and Poplar.  
Another change of property is the residence at 263 South Poplar, which has been bought by Wayne Nelson of 324 South Walnut. The Nelsons have moved into their new home.  
A new family in Brea is that of Roy Creason of Needles, recently coming here and moving into the residence at 104 North Orange. Another new resident also is Mrs. Winnie Luther of Ollinda, who has leased the house at 289 Poplar. Albert White into the residence at 117 Laurel.

**Hotel Open House Occurs Tomorrow**

**NEW SHERMAN ADDS FACILITY TO BREA CITY**

Entirely renovated and remodelled the New Sherman hotel at 106 North Pomona avenue is having its open house tomorrow all day, and the people of Brea and vicinity are invited to call and look the place over.

It was about sixty days ago that C. L. Dersch of the Erle hotel of Fullerton began the job of reconditioning the former Ozark hotel, getting it ready for business. For a number of years he had been at the head of the Erle and was induced by the owners of that hotel and the Ozark to take over the Brea place also. In the meantime the Erle has been sold and Mr. Dersch will give all his time here. He and Mrs. Dersch will have an apartment at the New Sherman.

In addition to repainting, re-wiring and reconditioning generally, Mr. Dersch has had two additional stall showers placed in the building, one each for men and women, with dressing space attached to each. These are in addition to the tub baths. In all the rooms there are complete new bed outfits.

The lobby has been re-arranged to make it very attractive, with new rugs and curtains, new furniture and appliances. Drapes are to be installed between the lobby and the dining room that may be drawn in the evening and thus separate the lobby.

**MOVED INTO HARDY HOME**

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Tracey, who have been living at 214 South Walnut since last spring, have moved to the H. W. Hardy home at 407 West Imperial highway. Mr. Tracey is here as resident engineer for the architect and the high school board in supervising the reconstruction of the various high school buildings. He and Mrs. Tracey came here from Whittier when this work began. Mr. and Mrs. Hardy have taken one of the cabins at the auto camp owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Smith on South Pomona avenue.

this week on the coast north of Brea, between Carolina avenue and Yorba Linda.  
The Imperial Highway association is against the Associated Oil company of California have been started by the state public works department for condemnation of property as right-of-way for completion of the Imperial highway between Yorba Linda and Brea.  
All parcels, about 20, named in the condemnation proceedings, are located between Carolina avenue and North Ohio street.  
Discussion of the use of \$534,111 due the city of Brea from the gas tax fund featured talk of constructing a new bridge on West Imperial highway, just west of Slevyers, when the council met recently. No action was taken as to allocation of the money however. This is work which the council conceded must be done in the near future.

Ed Peterkin was not elected the first president of the Imperial Highway association, seven years ago when the organization was started, nor was George Kellogg of Yorba Linda chosen the first secretary, but Ed was the first vice-president to be elected. This was all admitted by Kellogg recently, in outlining something of the highway's history at the October dinner here.

**Became First President**  
But, notwithstanding, Peterkin did become the first president, because the Los Angeles county man selected, didn't have time to serve, and Ed was promoted at once to the presidency, while Kellogg was then named secretary.

Nor, according to Kellogg, was the first routing of the Imperial Highway by Yorba Linda. Rather it was laid out from Brea through Carbon canyon, thence on some route, then unknown, to the Imperial valley. Not long afterward, however, Yorba Linda got into the game, attended the next meeting en masse and without opposition had the route made by their home town.

A story of that meeting of the organization got into the papers, where it was seen by Bob Hayes of El Centro. Immediately he sent twenty dollars for memberships and suggested that the route follow the old Butterfield trail, through Santa Ana canyon, from Corona south to Elsinore and thence on south and east to El Centro. A committee of Kellogg and one other was named to investigate. At the next meeting the committee reported favorably to the old Butterfield route, and it was so designated.

**The Butterfield Route**  
The Butterfield route, according to Kellogg, was established in 1847 by the war department at Washington, when Jefferson Davis was secretary, as the official stage coach route from St. Louis to San Francisco.  
The South was in the saddle in Washington then and demanded the route to the coast be southern. The government also subsidized Butterfield, by giving him a large amount of money monthly to continue the stage coaches. When the Civil war started this ended the Butterfield route. Kellogg states that it was estimated more than 200,000 people used the California overland route during the Butterfield stage coach era.

**Tomorrow is Last Day Of Bargain**

**MANY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PROGRESS OFFER**

Tomorrow is the last day of the special bargain subscription offer of the Brea Progress. Commencing immediately thereafter the price per year will be \$1.50 a year. The bargain offer, that holds good over tomorrow, is that of \$1 per year, either for new subscriptions or renewals. This offer is good when Mrs. Walter Robb or Mrs. Lillian Seckler call at homes, or over the counter at the Progress office.

It would be a good idea, for those who have not yet taken advantage of this bargain offer of \$1, to see either of the two ladies or to call at the Progress office and order the paper. It would be a good idea also and a good time to order the paper sent to friends or relatives living in other cities. The Progress at \$1 a year constitutes a weekly letter from you to such friends, making unnecessary the writing of so many letters.

Many citizens of Brea and community, and a few elsewhere have taken advantage of this \$1 offer, and others should bear in mind that the offer stops after tomorrow.

**BOYS TEAM DEFEATED BY EL MODENA TEAM**

Both the boys and girls indoor ball teams of the Brea grammar school have been very fortunate this season. The girls have won every game, while the boys played the season through without a defeat until they met El Modena Friday afternoon, when they were defeated 4 to 1, playing here. They will play a return game with El Modena and will still be champions if they win this game. The Brea girls defeated La Habra last Thursday night 12 to 11, while the boys defeated Buena Park 6 to 5.

On the girls team are Myrtle Pickering, Edith Lee Robinson, Roselle Womble, Joyce Manis, Wandalee Williams, Doris Wheeler, Betty Ann Griffith, Loquilla Epton, Mildred Himes, Lillian Cox, Barbara Jean Smith and Rose Warner.

The boys team is Lorenzo Echani, Frank Katell, Clifford Miller, Bobby Shanks, John Nash, Jimmie Baker, Donald Stipp, Floyd Sharp, James Glimpse, Melvin Carlson and Kenneth Irby.

**NO GREAT DAMAGE**

Although a heavy wind blew Sunday throughout almost the entire Southern California community, there was no great damage done to citrus fruit in the Brea and adjoining localities. Some of the trees were blown down from the trees but otherwise there was no damage. Also the wind some places caused damage to own-

...trative building for the  
...era, work to start at  
...15, next.

**Football Today**

Attend the football at 3 o'clock this at the Brea-Ollinda between Tustin Ollinda. This show of the best game season, as the tw tied for second place league standing. 1 good game to see

**Patent Decision On Infringement**

**ALEXANDER AWARDED JUDGMENT**

All here interest industry will be int knowing that Judge Cormick, of the court for the South district, has handed decision, which rests Eastman of Long various California from infringing on belonging to Alexander Inc., of Fullerton.

The Anderson case in business in Orange surveyors of oil well thirteen years, be pioneers in this line develops that in 19 applied for several ing its inventions was the one, which able time has been with the Eastman

The subject matter particular patent involving of survey instruments reflecting devices in of interest to oil and petroleum engineers

Judge McCormick strained the East from infringing on also the decree defendants furnish with an account of to the defendant them, resulting from judgments" and that judgment for the profits so found.

**MRS. SHAFFER**

It was understood week that the Mrs. W. D. Shaffer in hospital at Santa Ana not so encourage arrangements were her transfer to the in Rochester, Mrs. goes to press her condition she and no such trans

Nov 13, 1936

Theatre  
New marquee + paint job in 1936

fire in 1915  
in Delaney Bldg

Brea Hotel - formerly called the  
Kensler, California, Ozark +  
Sherman Hotels

# Hotel Open House Occurs Tomorrow

NEW SHERMAN ADDS FACILITY TO BREA CITY

Entirely renovated and remodeled the New Sherman hotel at 106 North Pomona avenue is having its open house tomorrow all day, and the people of Brea and vicinity are invited to call and look the place over.

It was about sixty days ago that C. L. Dersch of the Erle hotel of Fullerton began the job of reconditioning the former Ozark hotel, getting it ready for business. For a number of years he had been at the head of the Erle and was induced by the owners of that hotel and the Ozark to take over the Brea place also. In the meantime the Erle has been sold and Mr. Dersch will give all his time here. He and Mrs. Dersch will have an apartment at the New Sherman.

In addition to repainting, rewiring and reconditioning generally, Mr. Dersch has had two additional stall showers placed in the building, one each for men and women, with dressing space attached to each. These are in addition to the tub baths. In all the rooms there are complete new bed outfits.

The lobby has been re-arranged to make it very attractive, with new rugs and curtains, new furniture and appliances. Drapes are to be installed between the lobby and the dining room that may be drawn in the evening and thus separate the lobby.

Brea Progress  
Fri., Nov. 13, 1936

## Record Christmas Sales Made By Local Merchants

Benefit of Remaining Open Evenings Is Generally Agreed To

The city's Christmas business this year reached an all-time record volume of sales, it appears from a survey of local firms made this week. With some stores reaching double their sales volume on certain days in December this year as compared to their sales in 1944, it was believed that an average of about \$1,000 more per day was spent with Brea merchants in 1945.

Although Christmas merchandise was hard to get, local stores reported shelves fairly well stocked until near the end of the buying rush on Monday.

The main shopping block on South Pomona presented a different appearance during the Christmas buying this year, with several new stores, and with most of the local merchants, including some grocery stores and services, such as cleaners, remaining open evenings until 8 o'clock.

The general opinion of store owners who made the experiment of remaining open evenings was that it paid real dividends, both to them and to shoppers who would not otherwise have found the time to make a thorough search for the merchandise they wanted. There were exceptions to this opinion, however.

Since stores in other towns have consistently remained open evenings during the Christmas season, it was evident that Breans were going to shop in them during the evenings to the exclusion of local stores.

Several local merchants have also expressed their intention of remaining open on Saturday evenings to accommodate week-end buyers, effective January first.

All of the local stores except some

# BREA

# Progress

SERVING THE FINEST LITTLE CITY IN CALIFORNIA

VOLUME XXXII

BREA, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1945

NUMBER 36

## New Bus Depot In Operation At Brea Hotel

Mrs. Blanche Duran has announced that the Pacific-Electric Bus Depot is now in full operation in the Brea Hotel, with a comfortable waiting room and all-necessary facilities.

The bus company requests that all tickets for long trips be bought at the office here in order to save the time of the drivers. All busses will make regular stops at the hotel from now on, and information on schedules and such matters will be available there.

Until the new station was established, Breans have been in the category of orphans for bus service, waiting in all kinds of weather at the street corners for their transportation. The new office will mean much to the passengers' comfort and convenience.

Mrs. Duran, who with her son is owner of the hotel, reports that the bus office will be open from 9 a.m. till 9 p.m. She said that new furnishings and redecorations are also planned for the office when materials are available.

## Paul LaPrelle Visits Here After 3 Years In Army

Paul LaPrelle, who used to be

## Red Cross Award Certificates Are Now Available

The many Brea women who have contributed generously of their time to Red Cross work during the war and are now eligible to receive certificates of award for it, should see Mrs. Roxie Gotterba, who is in charge of Red Cross production here.

Kenneth L. Ahl, acting executive secretary of the North Orange County Chapter of Red Cross in Fullerton, said that Brea's production record throughout the war has been outstanding, and has set the pace for all the other branches in the area.

He attributed the outstanding local record to the work of Mrs. Gotterba, and expressed Red Cross' gratitude for her leadership.

The certificates are available to women who have contributed 200 hours or more of their time in making bandages, dressings, hospital supplies, and the many other items distributed by the agency throughout the world.

## Elan Candle Co. Has New Home

Miss Ann Greisel of Elan Candle Company believes this week in two important factors in life—Santa Claus, and advertising.

And many Breans who were anxious to help Elan find new quarters

## Instructions Given For Securing Your 1946 License

Motor vehicle registration renewal for residents of Brea will start Wednesday morning, January 2.

The registration renewal office serving this area is located at 405 South Main Street, Orange. The 1946 renewal will be in charge of Captain H. C. Meehan.

Because of the steel shortage which is still acute, a metallic tab to be bolted to the license plate will be issued. The vehicle owner may obtain his tab by presenting his 1945 Registration Card and the fee shown on the lower left-hand portion of the card.

Meehan said the Registration Card should show the applicant's present address. If the applicant has moved he should cross out the old address and print in the new address carefully in ink. The 1946 Registration card will be mailed to the address on the card.

Local residents may also obtain registration renewal by forwarding the fee and the 1945 Registration Card, corrected if necessary to the Department of Motor Vehicles at 700 East Broadway, Long Beach.

Currency should not be sent in payment of renewal fees. Use postal, bank or express money orders, certified or cashier's checks.

Fees become delinquent at midnight, February 4th.

## Santa Claus Host To Kiddies At Theater Party

About 350 of Brea's children thronged to the Brea Theater last Saturday morning and afternoon and Dump Myatt held forth with series of short subjects while B. Rodger made personal arrangements with Santa Claus, and it all added up to a gay party and a fine start for the kids on their first peace-tide Christmas in years.

Rainy weather kept some of the youngsters home, but the turnout was good despite it. There was candy, nuts, and such favors for all. And when the attendance failed to reach expectations, the remainder of the Christmas packages were turned over to the churches' good hands for distribution.

The party was an annual affair sponsored by the Lion's Club and assisted this year by Mr. Myatt at the theater.

## Victory Bond Sale 'Way Over Quota

Brea's eighth and final war bond drive was over the top this week, a great success as its seven predecessors, with a total of \$135,650 individual and corporation bond sales.

The city's quota was \$100,000. Bonds are still for sale, however, and will continue to be at all times when the Oilfields Bank and



# Brea Progress

Fri., Dec 28, 1945

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OLDIE BUT HISTORICAL GOODIE— That is Brea's only hotel, still offering single rooms for \$60 a month, despite inklings of redevelopment by the city of Brea. —Photo by Michael Kit...

# The little hotel that time forgot ...

By Leslie Stuart Carter

Let's face it, if you're looking for the Sheraton-Hilton, you're not about to check into the Brea Hotel by mistake.

Still and all, despite its indelibly working class tag, the 22-room, five-apartment establishment at 108 North Brea Blvd. has a lot going for it and a whole lot more that already went. For one thing, the place just happens to be the only bona fide hotel in our town. That's right, the two-story Brea Hotel has this rather startling distinction. Oh, sure, we've got rooming houses and boarding houses and a whole gaggle of motels but, yet, just one classified hotel.

Actually, it's been that way ever since 1913 when a gent named Bowen and his son-in-law, M.J. McCarty, proudly threw open the doors and revealed their splendid hostelry for the first time.

That section of Brea Boulevard between Birch and Lambert which, in those days was

called "Pomona Avenue," looks very much the same now as it did then although, according to a photo hanging in Canning's Hardware Store, there was only empty ground behind the buildings on Pomona.

Like the rest of its environs, the Brea Hotel has changed but little in those seven decades even though it subsequently lost a neighbor when that corner building got itself relocated around on Ash Street. That neighbor put one over on the old hotel by getting itself featured in the 1976 hit movie "Silver Streak" which starred Gene Wilder and Richard Pryor.

When Messrs McCarty and Bowen opened the hotel they shared the premises with Vern Russell's barber shop, a pool hall and a cafe, three emblems of that simpler age. In 1913, though, the world around those rough-hewn denizens of Pomona Avenue was about to change forever.

## Brea Beat

On April 14 of the previous year, the mighty "Titanic" had sunk into the frigid North Atlantic on her maiden voyage after colliding with an iceberg. Faulty seamanship, an overworked radio operator and wanton indifference to numerous reports of ice in the area sent the huge vessel 2 1/2 miles deep to the ocean's bottom with 1,500 souls.

A year after the Brea Hotel's first guests looked from their windows at the vehicular panorama on Pomona Avenue, the world went mad and gave a war and a lot of innocents went. They called it "The Great War" but the only thing "great" about it was the slaughter of millions from the flower of the globe's manhood.

Survivors of the trenches' unspeakable horrors returned to a more permissive world. With a curious inevitability, the crate-shaped

reputation, locally best described as "unsavory." But it's all different now. Today the modest hostelry is home for 40 residents, including six children.

Oddly, the hotel with the red-and-white awnings has no frontal sign, giving it an anonymous aura. Some years ago a tasteful sign was commissioned through and ceremoniously hung for all to see as they passed along teeming Brea Boulevard. Trouble was that the sign painter, in direct defiance of an unwritten edict requiring folks in his profession should be able to spell, had painted BREA HOTEL.

The Brea Hotel's wide main corridor is a tell-tale revelation of the building's venerability; the \$60 per month rents for a single room an indication of the spartan living conditions within. The communal showers and toilets are, however, clean and a

for the place has already begun despite the "on-borrowed tin threat from the City Brea's redevelopment project.

"We're going for new, family appeal," said white-bearded Brooklyn-born Tom Lawson, a four-year resident and former manager. "Me and Ru (Stone, current manager) work together to make the guests feel home."

Merry Christmas, Cassie, and better, my golden days, to come!

Brea Beat is a regular feature of the Brea Highlander. Leslie Stuart Carter is a 21-year resident of Brea and a native of London, England. He has written freelance articles for a variety of newspapers and magazines. Comments and suggestions for future columns are welcome. Write Brea Beat, The Brea Highlander, 1227 E. Yorba Linda

...asked the lantern was ... Wife — ... too, where ... elected Lieu- ... of Kansas on the ... by 1,500 majori- ... Friend, fairly ... ago to tell. ... a northern Kans- ... was a fine girl, ... in school; we ... Friend, who was ... at Soldier, had ... and later married ... visit the college ... keep his strings ... in that way we ... with him. Now, ... will be the Lieu- ...

**Arrange For Christmas**  
Vincent Jsaeter, presiding as vice-president, announced a committee of Ed Peterkin, C. C. Jarvis and Dr. Curtis to have charge of the Lions' Christmas campaign, with Bill Culp to contact corporations for donations and W. E. Fanning in charge of merchants cards.

Announcement that the Associated Chamber of Commerce would meet here, if invited, on December 10 was made by Corb Sarchet and on a motion by Ed Peterkin it was voted to have a committee contact the Junior Chamber of Brea and request that it sponsor the meeting. Albert Laing and Peterkin were named on such a committee.

Guests of the club included W. W. Hay and H. H. Hart of Los Angeles of the Union Oil company; Joe Peterson of Santa Ana; Bob Isbell of Olinda with Elmer Guy; Bill Rogers of Fullerton and Mark Sarchet with Earl Templeman; Russell Sage with Howard Robinson.

Herb Bergen, Joe Neuls and Carl Harvey were named a committee to arrange for the annual high school football banquet. The county council of Lion clubs will meet next Monday night at Santa Ana.

Brea club woman ladies, serving the luncheon, included Mrs. Glenn Curtis, Mrs. Ed Peterkin, Mrs. Joe Neuls, Mrs. Russell Sage, Mrs. A. A. Voorhees, Mrs. L. M. Carey and Mrs. Howard Robinson.

Postmaster Mike Hogue announced the setup for employers in putting into effect the federal social security old age pension plan and asked the co-operation of all employers.

### DEATH OCCURS OF MOTHER OF BREANS

E. L. Nelson of 110 Redwood and W. I. Nelson of South Pomona avenue were called to the city of Pomona last Friday by the serious illness and consequent death of their mother, Mrs. Sena Nelson of that city. Her death occurred Friday and funeral ceremonies were held Monday at the Todd-Reeves chapel in Pomona, with interment in the Pomona cemetery. Mrs. Nelson's passing followed a long illness.

In addition to the two sons, living in Brea, there also survive the husband, Ivy Nelson of Pomona, and two other sons, Virgil and Harland Nelson of Pomona, and four daughters—Mrs. W. C. Polson of Bell, Mrs. Mark La Watchett of Maywood, Mrs. Harry Bradshaw of Pomona, and Mrs. Walter Davis of Roosevelt, Okla.

### FIRE AT HIGH SCHOOL

The Brea fire department was called yesterday morning to the Brea-Olinda high school, where a fire had started in the drying room of the laundry department. Some towels were destroyed but otherwise the fire was put out before there was any particular damage.

ings & Loan. The first purchase was of the residence at 250 Redwood. Recently Perry Hill has moved into this house from his former location at 137 Flower.

Mr. Sarles' other purchase was the house at 217 Orange. It is his intention to redecorate and remodel it for the purpose of renting.

J. P. Burnison has purchased the home at 325 South Walnut from the Mutual Building & Loan and has moved there from the corner of Imperial and Poplar.

Another change of property is the residence at 263 South Poplar, which has been bought by Wayne Nelson of 324 South Walnut. The Nelsons have moved into their new home.

A new family in Brea is that of Roy Creason of Needles, recently coming here and moving into the residence at 104 North Orange. Another new resident also is Mrs. Winnie Luther of Olinda, who has leased the house at 289 Poplar. Albert White into the residence at 117 Laurel.

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### MOVED INTO HARDY HOME

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Tracey, who have been living at 214 South Walnut since last spring, have moved to the H. W. Hardy home at 407 West Imperial highway. Mr. Tracey is here as resident engineer for the architect and the high school board in supervising the reconstruction of the various high school buildings. He and Mrs. Tracey came here from Whittier when this work began. Mr. and Mrs. Hardy have taken one of the cabins at the auto camp, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Smith on South Pomona avenue.

## HOW ED PETERKIN BECAME FIRST PRESIDENT

Much activity is in progress right now in connection with further work along Imperial highway, soon to become Brea's most important highway. Work began this week on the construction east of Brea, between Carolina avenue and Yorba Linda.

Eminent domain proceedings against the Associated Oil company of California have been started by the state public works department for condemnation of property as right-of-way for completion of the Imperial highway between Yorba Linda and Brea.

All parcels, about 20, named in the condemnation proceedings, are located between Carolina avenue and North Ohio street.

Discussion of the use of \$534.11 due the city of Brea from the gas tax fund featured talk of constructing a new bridge on West Imperial highway, just west of Sievers, when the council met recently. No action was taken as to allocation of the money however. This is work which the council conceded must be done in the near future.

Ed Peterkin was not elected the first president of the Imperial Highway association, seven years ago when the organization was started, nor was George Kellogg of Yorba Linda chosen the first secretary, but Ed was the first vice-president to be elected. This was all admitted by Kellogg recently, in outlining something of the highway's history at the October dinner here.

### Became First President

But, notwithstanding, Peterkin did become the first president, because the Los Angeles county man selected, didn't have time to serve, and Ed was promoted at once to the presidency, while Kellogg was then named secretary.

Nor, according to Kellogg, was the first routing of the Imperial Highway by Yorba Linda. Rather it was laid out from Brea through Carbon canyon, thence on some route, then unknown, to the Imperial valley. Not long afterward, however, Yorba Linda got into the game, attended the next meeting en masse and without opposition had the route made by their home town.

A story of that meeting of the organization got into the papers, where it was seen by Bob Hayes of El Centro. Immediately he sent twenty dollars for memberships and suggested that the route follow the old Butterfield trail, through Santa Ana canyon, from Corona south to Elnore and thence on south and east to El Centro. A committee of Kellogg and one other was named to investigate. At the next meeting the committee reported favorably to the old Butterfield route, and it was so designated.

### The Butterfield Route

The Butterfield route, according to Kellogg, was established in 1847 by the war department at Washington, when Jefferson Davis was secretary, as the official stage coach route from St. Louis to San Francisco.

The South was in the saddle in Washington then and demanded the route to the coast be southern. The government also subsidized Butterfield, by giving him a large amount of money monthly to continue the stage coaches. When the Civil war started, this ended the Butterfield route. Kellogg states that it is estimated more than 200,000 people came into California over that route during the Butterfield stage coach era.

Armistice Day man is Harry Citizens of urged to renew for the ensu many addition greatly desired is but \$1. It will be a house made here, as in the past.

## Tomorrow Day

### MANY TAKE PROGR

Tomorrow is special bargain of the Brea Pro immediately the per year will be bargain offer, tomorrow, is either for new renewals. This Mrs. Walter R. Seckler call at counter at the

It would be a who have not y of this bargain either of the two at the Progress paper. It would also and a good paper sent to f living in other c at \$1 a year co letter from you making unneece of so many lett

Many citizens munity, and a f taken advantage and others sho that the offer s row.

### BOYS TEAM D BY EL

Both the boys ball teams of the school have been this season. The every game, while the season through feat until they m day afternoon, defeated 4 to 1, p will play a return Modena and will if they win this girls defeated Thursday night the boys defeated to 5.

On the girls Pickering, Edith Roselle Womble Wandalee Williams, Betty Ann Epton, Mildred Cox, Barbara Jean Warner.

The boys team anis, Frank-Kate ler, Bobby Shan Jimmie Baker, Do Sharp, James C Carlson and Ken

### NO GREAT

Although a he Sunday throughout tire Southern Calif ty, there was no done to citrus fr and adjoining vic the green fruit w the trees, but the no damage. Also pleted the walnut era.

# SECOND BLAZE SET AT HOTEL

Wednesday, July 7, 1932  
Arson Squad Searches  
for Suspect

By SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BREA—The second fire of supposed incendiary origin within eight days routed out guests of the Brea hotel at 3 a. m. today.

Following the first fire which occurred a week ago Wednesday at 1 a. m. spring locks were placed on the doors at the rear of the two halls and the front entrance was left open. Unable to gain an entrance this morning, the supposed incendiary started a fire on the porch at the rear of the unoccupied wing. Volney Siebenthal, night man at the fire house, found a tightly knotted ball of inner tube wrapped in sacking and smelling strongly of gasoline in the corner of the doorway this morning. An inner tube filled with gasoline was the means used of igniting the building last week.

James McFarland, a night sleeper, heard something crackling and thought he smelled smoke. He aroused another lodger and they sighted the smoke across the court but could not be sure that it was the hotel. Rousing the landlord, L. C. Sharpe, they opened the rear door in their hall in the south wing and found the fire on the porch of the north wing.

An alarm was sent in and the fire company responded. The entire building was damaged by smoke and water and the smoke forced the occupants to flee without gathering any of their belongings. Two little canary birds were killed.

July 7, 1932

A call was sent for the county arson squad who immediately set out after a suspect. Tire tracks in a Brea garage and at the place where the car was parked while the fire was started are clues.

Sharpe is selling his furniture stock which he has in a store under the hotel to dealers today and they will move out of the hotel as soon as possible. His wife's nerves cannot stand the strain of frequent fires, she says. Their daughter, who is ill and under a great strain from the first fire, was away from home last night.

# Arson Suspected In Brea Hotel Fire Friday Morning

WATER SHUT OFF, KEROSENE  
IN BUILDING; SECOND  
FIRE IN WEEK

The arson squad from Santa Ana was called early Friday to investigate the fire which broke out at the rear door of the unoccupied north wing of the Brea hotel at 3 A.M. Friday morning. When the fire company arrived it found an unaccountable lack of pressure in the water line and used a pump to supply force. Later investigation revealed the fact that the water supply had been shut off at the reservoir as tightly as it could be done by hand. Later Friday morning Volney Siebenthal, night man at the fire station, found a tightly rolled inner tube wrapped in burlap and smelling strongly of kerosene in the corner of the back door sill where the fire started.

The fire which occurred 10 days before in a room in the same wing was believed to have been started in a similar manner as a similar tube and a strong odor of kerosene were found in the room when the fire boys arrived. Mrs. L. C. Sharpe, proprietress of the hotel, said she had been cleaning up kerosene in the hall and lobby outside the corner of the room where the fire had started, for several days before the second fire occurred. This kerosene had seeped through, she believed, after the tube had burned through and released the fluid to spread where it would.

Feeling that this fire was of incendiary origin, Mr. Sharpe put spring locks on the two back doors on the north and south wings and left the front stairway open for late comers. The incendiary, finding the door locked, built his bonfire on the porch before his departure.

James McFarland, a roomer and light sleeper, heard a crackling noise and smelled smoke and aroused another roomer.

Looking out the window they could see smoke but could not tell whether or not it emanated from the hotel. Together they called the landlord who unlocked the door in their wing when the fire was plainly visible.

Damage by fire was slight in both cases, thanks to the quick work of the fire boys, but smoke poured into every part of the hotel and water following the flames overhead seeped through the plaster in every direction. Two little canary birds lost their lives in the thick smoke that filled the porch where their cage hung.

Search for clues as to the person responsible for the fire resulted in finding footprints and the marks of automobile tires near the reservoir and footprints and tire marks north of the Oil Well Supply Company's building which tallied exactly with the others. Tire marks on a garage floor where a car had been taken for repairs on Thursday also fitted into the picture.

The arson squad had been notified of the suspicious circumstances surrounding the first fire and already had a mass of evidence concerning one suspect. Acting on the clues which they had they have traced the suspect to San Francisco but so far have been unable to make an arrest.

George Ellis, fireman, was the only person injured in the fires. He fell into a skylight and cut his hand so that several stitches had to be taken in it. Mrs. Sharpe suffered from nervous shock caused by fear that she and her family might be trapped in the hotel and burned up and her daughter, but recently out of the hospital, had to be placed under a physician's care the night of the first fire. She was away from home the night the second fire occurred.

As a result, Mr. Sharpe auctioned off all the furniture in his store downstairs and in the hotel yesterday and will occupy a private residence in the future.

Brea Progress

Thurs., June 30, 1932

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# Early Morning Fire At Brea Hotel Does Very Little Damage

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**PROMPT ARRIVAL OF FIRE DEPARTMENT CONFINES BLAZE TO ONLY ONE ROOM**

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A serious fire broke out at 12:45 a.m. Wednesday morning in an unoccupied room of the Brea Hotel, but was extinguished by the quick work of the fire department which responded to the call in double quick time. The furnishings of one room were completely destroyed and the interior badly damaged by fire smoke and water and the ceiling of the furniture store belonging to Mr. Sharpe, proprietor of the hotel, was saturated with water.

All the occupants of the building were in the south wing and no one knew of the conflagration until the windows were broken by the heat. When the flames burst from the windows of the north wing, they attracted the attention of James McFarland a lodger, who hastily roused the others and turned in an alarm.

The speed at which the boys responded may be guessed when one knows that they were in time to confine the fire to the one room.

The building carries insurance but the furniture in the store and hotel, which belongs to Mr. Sharpe carried no insurance.

# WILL BUILD FOR POSTOFFICE, STORE

W. L. Rhodes yesterday let the contract for the erection of a one-story brick business block on his lot on the west side of Central avenue, La Habra, adjoining the Western building. It is expected that construction work will start next Monday.

The building will have fifty feet front and will contain two rooms, the west one being designed for use by the postoffice. It will be so designed that entrance can be secured to boxes by patrons at times when the office is closed. Whether or not the government will accept the room for this purpose is a point that cannot be determined until the building is complete and a tender made. However, the policy of the postoffice department is to improve the service wherever possible.

The eastern room, which will be the larger of the two, will be rented for business purposes. Riley & Boales have the contract for the erection of the building, which will be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible.

## Brea Hotel Changes Hands

The Brea Hotel changed hands Tuesday morning. The hotel has been owned for the past two years by W. A. Engle, who disposed of the property Tuesday to Mrs. Harry Thayer of Brea.

Engle left today with his wife for his ranch near Little Rock, Cal. He owns eighty acres of land in that vicinity and expects to set an acre of this to pears in the near future. Engle most emphatically stated that he is still a Brea booster.

### INTO NEW HOME

The new home of Jay C. Sexton of Brea has been completed and the family has moved into it. The former Sexton home has been purchased by...

## RECEPTION GIVEN FOR BREA TEACHERS

The members of the Brea P. T. A. entertained with a reception Tuesday evening in honor of the teachers of the grammar school. The affair was held in the school auditorium and was opened with a few words of welcome by the vice-president of the P. T. A. The program was then turned over to Mrs. Middleton who was in charge of the entertainment. The first number on the program was a delightful piano solo by Miss Agnes Coffey. Rev. W. E. Spidder delivered the welcoming address in his usual sincere and enthusiastic manner. He brought out the fact that we all love our teachers and summed up his talk in a few words. He said in order to make the school an asset to the city the teachers should be like pianos. They should be upright, square and grand.

Prof. Fahning responded to this address of welcome and gave those who were present some idea of the work that must be accomplished by the teachers. The teachers' work is never completed and they labor on and on in an attempt to make perfect men and women out of their pupils.

Following the response a duet was sung by Miss Avis Coffey of Brea and Vernon Martz of Whittier. The remainder of the evening was spent in a jolly get-together fashion during the course of which refreshments were served.

### ENTERTAINS GUESTS FROM THE EAST

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Schneider entertained with a dinner on Sunday. They had as their guests E. Rath and family of Iowa, who are visiting at the C. H. Rath home in East Whittier. Other guests were C. H. Rath and family, Mr. Siska Dorf and son, William, of East Whittier. Following the delightful dinner a most pleasant afternoon was spent on the ranch.

### ENTERTAINS WITH DINNER

Mrs. James A. Tunis of the West Coast lease entertained a number of her friends with a

## YORBA LIDA OPENS NEW LIBRARY HOME

The new quarters of the Yorba Linda Public Library, in what was formerly the postoffice building, were formally opened last night. The building has been fitted up in a very comfortable and serviceable manner, and in its new location this popular institution promises to be even more valuable than before.

Dr. Lester Keller delivered the opening address in his usual interesting manner. There being only a moderate attendance, the meeting was then turned over to the Chamber of Commerce and Farm Center for its regular meeting. The topic of the evening was "Cover Crops," and this was ably handled by N. W. Renneker, an interesting discussion following.

### TO GIVE SUPPER

The ladies of the Brea Christian church will serve a harvest supper Thursday evening under the arbor of the Christian church. Many good things to eat will be served and everyone is invited to be present.

### ON MOTOR TRIP

Mr. and Mrs. George Meyers of Yorba Linda leave this week for a motor trip through the northern part of the state. They expect to be absent about two weeks.

## Dog Poisoner Gets in Work

Two of the valuable dogs owned by E. H. Peterkin of Brea have been poisoned during the past week. The dogs were Boston bull and both prize animals. One died the latter part of last week, it being valued at \$250. The second was poisoned the first of this week and was immediately taken to Anaheim where it is hoped to save its life. A determined effort is being made to locate the party responsible.

### MOTHERS MEETING

A special meeting of the...

## ASSOCIATION PROFIT YEAR

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Brea Fruit Association was held at the packing house yesterday noon. Secretary Gooch reported an interesting and profitable year's output of which appears as follows:

The total output of 164,967 boxes, or 4,285,226 pounds. Of these 42,000 were graded as No. 1, brand and 34,82 per cent of the total was the Valencia brand, or second grade.

Valencia shipments to September 1 total 1,000 boxes, or 5,586 pounds. The navel crop was 428,526 pounds.

There were 1,172 boxes of fruit and 35 boxes of Valencia. The directors for the year are A. M. Otis, York, Vice-President, C. G. H. Sargent, J. D. S. Edwards and Wm Es.

After the meeting adjourned to the garage where they were treated to a most interesting picture show. The picture was "A Little Bit of History" showing the evolution of the box shock is made.

### PLANS TO LOCATE IN LA

John Kruse of La Habra was called to Iowa a week ago by the death of his father. He returned to his home last night. He was accompanied on his return trip by John, brother of Mrs. Kruse and Mrs. Chris Schneider of Brea. Battgar is looking for property about La Habra.

Brea Star  
Wed  
Oct 22, 1919

B. P. Friday Sept 18, 1936

## The New Sherman Hotel To Open C. L. Dersch Has Building Remodeled.

The new Sherman Hotel is to be opened in Brea within the next fifteen days. That it will take that long a period is the estimate of the man who will open it and see that it is operated — C. L. Dersch, owner and operator of the Erie Hotel of Fullerton. The two are to be operated together, to the greatest extent possible.

The new Sherman Hotel is located at 104 North Pomona avenue. A hotel for a number of years it was formerly the California and the Brea, and more lately the Osard. But it has been re-christened and is being repainted, re-wired, re-modeled, re-vamped in every particular.

The new Sherman is to be entirely modern, according to Mr. Dersch, who is spending a considerable time here seeing that the remodeling is being accomplished. There will be a new lobby, with the dining room at the rear. The downstairs exit of the stairway will be changed, pointing it into the new lobby. Partitions are being removed.

The hotel will be run on both an American and a European basis the guest makes his own choice. In addition to regular rooms, there will also be four or five furnished apartments for small families, and even unfurnished apartments if there is any call for such.

"It looks to me," says Mr. Dersch, "that Brea



is on the comeback, Additional citizens are  
~~moving~~ moving in, business is getting better, things  
generally are on the uplift. Those are the  
reasons back of my deciding to re-open,  
after re-modeling this hotel."

LICE SAID 58 PERSONS WERE they were riding plunged into a ill may climb to 72.

SADOR CHARLES STELLE TOLD that Russia appears set on a break the nuclear test ban decision "rigid and unhegottable."

DAY OF DECISION FOR CANA- new government. Prime Ministry opposition is Lester Pearson. The election also could be vital anadian relations, especially in r hemispheric defense. First re- out, at least eight million per-

IA HAS TAKEN ANOTHER STEP rule and the return of civilian Park Chung Hee suspended a r years of army rule and lifted a is should lead the way for elec-

NATION U.S. SAYS THERE ARE "INDI- sonnel from Communist North local Communist troops who tos. The State Department called tion" by Britain and Russia and l Commission to stop the fight- re, co-chairman of the Geneva. The fighting between the two n of Jars region is reported as

MA)—ONE HUNDRED ALABAMA into Birmingham to guard a f racial violence. The troopers, lice units, represent about one- umber of patrolmen. The move- of racial protests that have the arrest of 93 persons. (See

AN ADVANCED VERSION PO- ever designed for firing from a successful 2,000 mile test flight naverall. The Polaris A-3 will be most 3,000 miles away.

W YORK)—POLICE HERE RE- NT shot and killed five persons two others. They said 33-year- his wife and four-year-old son, lative who lived next door. The also relatives. Hansen later sur-

ATION OF A "DRAFT-GOLD- nent was announced in Wash- ell, Jr., Republican State Chair- one Harrington, Republican Na- for Indiana, said they will be Draft-Goldwater Committee. They ted Senator Goldwater.

IE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT IS a \$23 million check to General s would serve as a guarantee still the department's choice to ne. The Senate currently is in- tagon officials did not go along io picked Boeing.

HIT A CAR HERE THIS MORN- irls and seriously injuring two- it was what veteran police of- vreck" they ever saw.

STATE RENTS OF A 2-YEAR-OLD GIRL n felony child beating charges ospitalized for treatment of burns 2-year-old Leroy Morrow and his



THEY KNOW THEIR ORANGES — Gene Buckner and Nelson Cornell of Brea-Olinda Union High School show ribbons they earned, in the state citrus judging finals at California State Polytechnic College, Kelllogg Campus.

Phonny Buckner carried off top hon- ors placing him as top citrus judge in the State of California. A team composed of Harlan Tinnes, Mike Davis and Edwin Richison carried off top honors in pest identification.

FLAMES QUICKLY CHECKED

Disastrous Hotel Fire Averted By Speedy Action Of Firemen

What might have been a discovered by a roomer, Mr. conflagration was averted by Boyd. quick action of the manager and the fire department when a blaze was discovered in the Brea Hotel late Friday afternoon in a room on the top floor of the hotel and the flames had burned away a window sill, into a wall and were mushrooming to the ceiling when

Boyd. Boyd summoned Al Mills, who operates the hotel, and the fire department was called. Quickly controlled. When the firemen arrived a few minutes later Mills was playing an extinguisher stream on the flames. Quickly the fire hoses were at work and the firemen had the blaze under control. It was extinguished before the flames reached the ceiling.

The fire occurred at 5:19 p.m. There were but a few guests in the hotel at the time, and there was no panic. The arrival of the apparatus at the hotel, however, attracted many spectators. Police took charge of the traffic situation on Brea Blvd.

Brea Building Zooming Fast To New Record

Brea, with \$4,570,459 in building for the first quarter of 1963 seems certain to pass the \$6,297,198 record of 1960 by the end of 1963.

Brea was among the eight Orange County communities which showed a gain in building over the first quarter of last year.

Last year's figure for Brea building was \$5,469,010, the second highest in history.

The Orange County total for the first quarter of this year was \$161,770,208.00 compared with \$135,552,717. The county total for March, however, was behind last year. The 1962 March total was \$50,168,181, as compared with \$48,780,308 this year.

Brea had a March total of \$3,973,743, compared with \$1,006,002 last year.

Special Events At Brea Library

"If the fire had mushroomed under the ceiling we would have had a real job on our hands," Fire Chief A. G. Ellis declared. "We are grateful that with the quick action of Al Mills we were able to put it out before that happened."

Short Circuit Chief Ellis believes the fire was caused by a short circuit in the radio which was on a table near the window in a room occupied by Herb Hardy. The flames licked the sill and got behind the wall before Boyd smelled smoke and traced the blaze to Room 23. Damage done by the fire is estimated at \$500.

TRUCK STOLEN

A half ton pickup truck belonging to Sylvester Gates of 116 S. Redwood was stolen from the 100 block on South Brea Blvd. late Friday, he reported to police.

80 Enlist For Cancer Drive Here April 15

Brea women are organizing their forces for the 1963 Cancer Crusade which starts here April 15.

Mrs. Edward P. Deming, Brea city chairman of the Cancer Crusade, today announced 80 workers had been enlisted and more would be recruited this week.

Mrs. Deming made it clear today that the Cancer Crusade was providing direct assistance in Brea and that the workers soliciting funds here were local volunteers. She said that solicitation should not be confused with that of outside religious and charitable organizations who, unfortunately are siphoning off funds that could go to such work-

(Please Turn to Page A-2)

Life's Little Dramas

The spotlight is again on youth as life's little dramas are presented here.

Youngsters on S. Laurel got hold of an almanac and some fortune cookies and they are predicting the future for their luckless pals. Your future comes neatly on a slip of tissue in a plain envelope and may cost you a nickel—if you

Contributions

Contributions to Life's Little Dramas come in daily. Some are usable—some are not. Here down to a line of type or two:

A police matron on duty the other evening ran out of are a few that can be boiled matches and, of all places, got some in the fire department. A kid with a lollypop dropped

Board Says

Meantime, the Recreation Com n their meeting la night decided to Council that V.F.V the use of the par when the Girl s using it. During the ove events last year Walton Richison s ditional police pa provided and that fathers served as The VFW wants a "big top" to sta and commercial it was pointed ou fair is held at th nated it will be obtain the exhibi Also scheduled at tonight's adjo in is a discussio posed oil drilling tion code and a r committee asked the request for an stead of an unde duit required for ings into the F tract.

Firehouse Sit

A representativ pany which propo a sound system i cil Chambers wil meeting to discu councilmen the ty phones that sho vided.

There is no indi

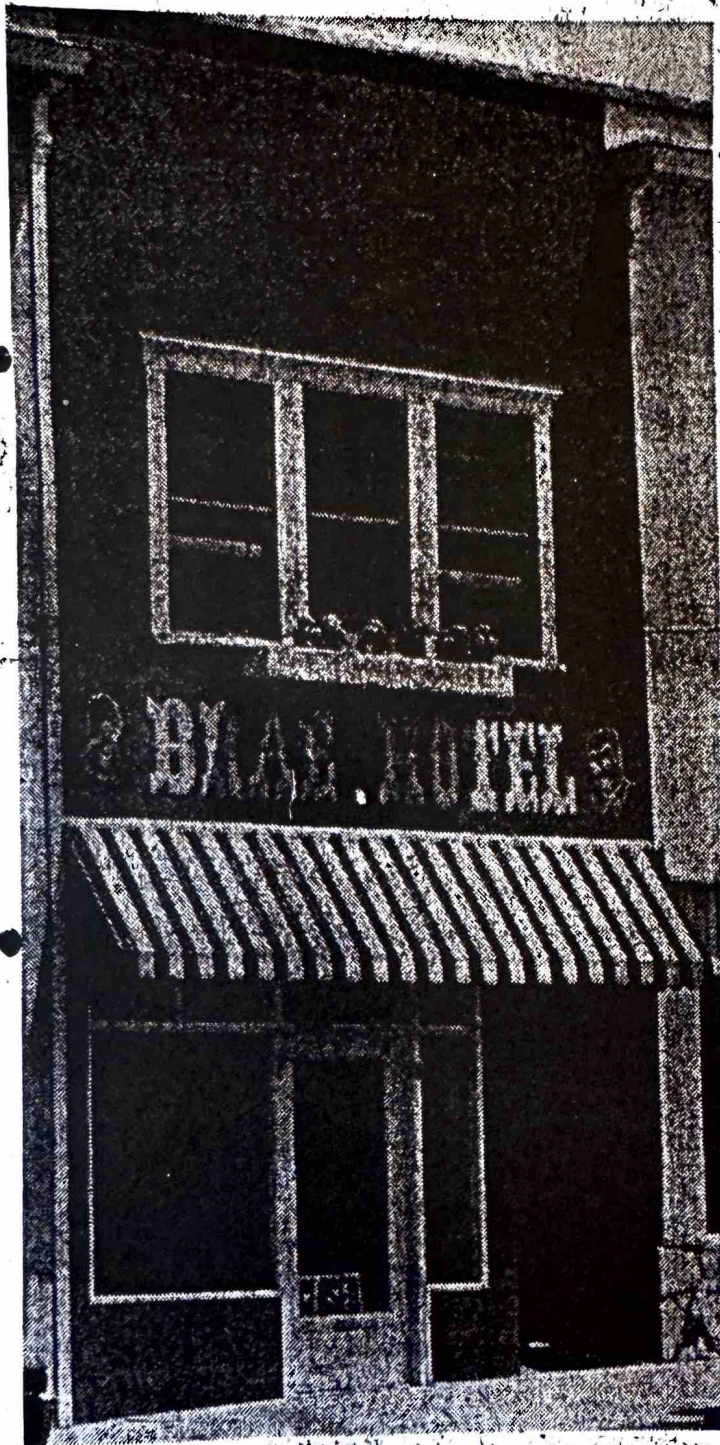
agenda that ther report on a seco site, but this prot made if Councilm vey has received owners of propert his committee.

Big Scran For Eggs For Satur

Mayor Lloyd Re claimed next Satu is Easter Hunt D expected that l youngsters will Arovista Park v and bags. The event i youngsters throu grade and offic at 9 o'clock, acc Kiwanis announce

April 8, 1963

# What's In A Name



**THAT'S NO MISTAKE** — The old Brea Hotel has taken on a fresher look of late thanks to paint, awnings, and window boxes that should become prominent in the rest of the area when the "Good Old Brea" project gets into full swing. The spelling of the hotel name — "Brae" — has brought much attention to the often-overlooked building, but word is out that the painter didn't make a mistake in lettering the building's front. A spokesman for the hotel said that the owner prefers to use the "Scottish" word, Brae, to identify his business, and that it was one-time referred to by that name, anyway. Whatever the reason, the new look and the letter transpositioning has brought much attention to the old building. (Star-Progress Photo)

## Supervisor Opponents To Speak Here

BREA — County Supervisor William J. Phillips and his opponent in the third district supervisorial race, Ralph Diedrich, have both accepted invitations to speak before the next chamber of commerce manufacturer's committee luncheon, July 20, at Imperial Golf Course, the chamber announced Wednesday.

The candidates have agreed to a program of 20 minutes each for presentation of their qualifications, platform, etc., and it has been agreed that no questions will be asked from the audience.

One candidate will be given a 12:15 p.m. time slot, will speak for 20 minutes, and will depart, then the other candidate will make his presentation at 12:45 p.m., a chamber spokesman indicated.

The time slot will be assigned in an open meeting on July 13 at the chamber office, and will be determined by lot or a coin toss, it was revealed.

This format is offered by the chamber to conserve time and to create a program which is fair to all concerned, chamber president Darwin Manuel said in letters to both candidates.

The luncheon-meeting is open to the public, but space at the golf clubhouse is limited, so reservations will be held to 60 spectators, the chamber revealed.

The charge for attending the luncheon is \$4, and reservations should be turned in to the chamber office, 333 S. Brea Blvd., not later than July 14.

## Weather

Night and morning low clouds and fog; otherwise hazy sunshine today and Friday. Not much temperature change. High today in the mid-80s. Low tonight 65.

posa School, Wednesday  
The problem came when the first attempt to pass tentative version, one member abstained from voting and other voted "no" because resolution that was included the requested board action. With trustees Ann I and Alan West absent, then on the first try to adopt tentative plan for 1972-73 with the one abstention. A seven-member board votes is needed to pass measure.

Trustee Howard Frazier the one negative vote, a the board that he did cause he disagreed with solution that was tacked the tentative budget re pertaining to the authority of two new "permissive overrides" for correctives relating to fire al-

## Brea, La Habra Share Highway Users Rebat

The June apportionment highway users taxes, amounting to \$70,778,596, has been distributed among the state and counties announced Controller Houston I. F.

Orange County's share \$1,221,382.19, while the La Habra and the City received \$39,616.03 and respectively.

A total of \$18,333,929 recently to the counties; 334 to the cities; and \$ for expenditures on streets and ways.

The total apportionment derived from the sources: gasoline tax, \$614; diesel fuel tax, \$ transfer from the Triton Tax Fund, \$2,758 miscellaneous, \$1,732.

Gasoline tax available June apportionment \$32,643 greater than month. The diesel fuel \$3,321,921 less than figure. The transfer Transportation Fund \$28,922 greater than in

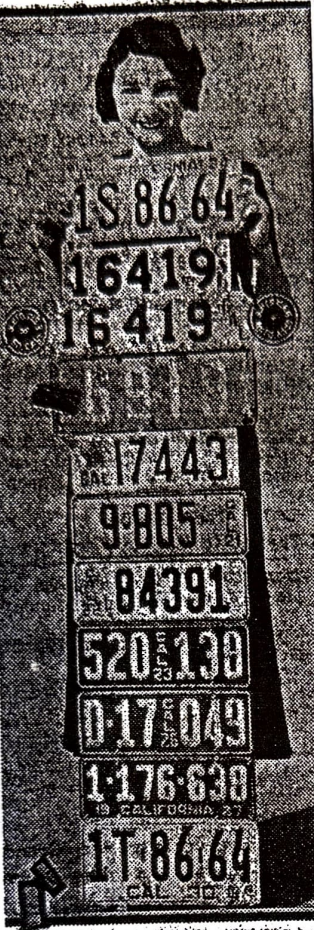
# La Habra Boys' Club Cited By City Council

June 29, 1972

# New Deal Turkey

al Life Institute of FOUNDATION rating with tional College November 20, 1933. llips, gress, da. llips, ing a short article as my letter of Decem- year. been before the world ng the past year, that i news value can be ever, I am giving you this Turkish revolu- appears to one who is of it. Sincerely, Richard H. Allee, Director. yria), Turkey—I have from a visit to one of areas in which Near ion carrying on ruit- projects. The vil- are on fire. Every- is spirit of rejuven- through seventeen he course of a two- camp. In sixteen of are new primary completed or in the nstruction. Land that since the days of the Kings and the Roman eing cleared for culti- tary facilities are be- Every village has its its young people's un- room, and a business- or the meetings of the of Elders. Many of agricultural coopera- with prices the lowest heat is selling or the about ten cents per ere is a general atti- tude. No for progress seems he world like an epi- manifests itself in the it men such as Kemal Mussolini of Italy, Hit- lary, and Roosevelt of urkey could never have the wreck of the Otto- to a position of lead- he Near East without c strength of President the Diplomacy of Prime

## Auto Tag History



Phenomenal interest in motor cars are recorded in this Auto Club of Southern California collection of old license plates. Contrasted with the 1934 plates at top, the "tags" show many changes in number systems and colors. Third from top is an iron marker made for members by the auto club in 1909. Fifth down is type used from 1916 to 1919, with emblems of bear, poppy and bell marking the only annual change.

### TELEPHONE TROUBLES THWARTED BY PRE-RAINY WEATHER CABLE TESTS

It's tough to be a telephone cable! Although carrying hundreds of telephone conversations hourly, some cables find life just one puncture after another. These voice carriers have varied misfortunes; some are bitten by insects, others are struck by bullets, pierced by arrows, speared by fishermen, strangled, electrocuted, pinched, cut or burned. Some cables contain as many as 3,000 separate wires, each strand covered with colored wax paper. When a pair tests "dead," the trouble shooter immedi- ately snatches another pair for ser-

# BIRTH OF PROGRESS TOLD BY FOUNDER

By C. A. MEACHAM  
Brea's First Publisher  
(Continued From Last Issue)

What was generally considered as the first well of high gravity oil in these days was the famous Birch No. 6, which came in with a flow of 2400 barrels a day at about the time that the Brea townsite was laid out. In 1913 this single well was assessed by the county at one million dollars, probably too high a figure, but it attracted widespread interest and stimulated all kinds of business in this northern section of the county, which heretofore had been regarded by the more populous sections as being sort of "wild and woolly" or "way out in the sticks."

Also in 1913 the Standard brought in their famous No. 7 well on the Henry lease. This well came in with a flow of 11,000 barrels of about four times that of any other well in California outside of Kern county held up to that time but it did not continue flowing for the long period of time which helped to make the Birch well famous. This was a "scobop" for the Progress as the news of Henry No. 7 was published in your home paper before any of the dailies got hold of it.

The Brea oil fields also attracted much attention from the fact that the first casinghead gasoline was manufactured here. The first plant of the kind was that of the Pacific Gasoline Company in Brea Canyon, under the management of W. A. Culp, and which had an initial capacity of three thousand gallons a day. Within two years time there were eight other plants operating in the local fields, some of these working under lease agreements and some owned outright by the producing companies.

Brea was the first town south of the Tehachapi to utilize natural gas for fuel purposes when the Birch Oil Company laid a pipe line into town and began serving local residents, and it was about eighteen years ago that the first natural gas was piped to points outside

the oil fields. In some localities it was used "straight" the same as in Brea and in some places it was mixed with the artificial or man- ufactured gas.

The California National Supply and the Oil Well Supply Company were already located here before the founding of the Progress, the Standard Oil Company shops were established about the same time, and within a few months time buildings were constructed for the Union Tool Works, Dietzel's Boiler Works and the Tay-Pike Com- pany.

The Delaney building, where a newspaper was printed in Brea for the first time, had three store rooms on the lower floor and a rooming house on the upper floor. About the time this building was ready for occupancy, work was started on the McCarty building on Pomona avenue, which when completed, had accommodations for four more businesses, and a hotel dining room on the ground floor. The entire upper floor was occu- pied by the Brea Hotel, which made it quite a hotel for such a town in those days. Then about a year later the Sewell building was erected on the site of the old building which, as I have related, burned down in September, 1913, in such fashion as to prove the complete lack of fire protection. The new Sewell building had five store rooms on the ground floor, several office rooms on the second floor and an auditorium which was the source of considerable pride to the young and growing town.

With all of these building activ- ities the town of Brea passed away from the cross-roads trad- ing center period and became a lively little industrial city, keeping pace with the important develop- ments in the local oil fields at that time. So, in closing, I hope that the readers will understand what a big part the events of those two years had in laying the foundations for the present prosperous and pro- gressive city of Brea.

THE END

Many repair jobs result from bul- lets fired into telephone cables, either by mistake or purposely. The Fourth of July, New Year's Eve, and certain other joyful oc- casions add to the bullet problem.

keeps 1,250 men and women con- stantly at work in the Southern California Telephone Company. They keep records, test the lines, receive reports of trouble and clear them. Eliminating some of the haz- ards in the life of telephone cables

FRI  
DEC 22, 1933

TJCT  
March 6, 1912

Brea  
Improvements Going  
on at Brea

Brea, the new oil town on the Pacific Electric in La Habra Valley is growing steadily and it is predicted that within a short time will have five hundred or more population. A number of oil well employees are moving to Brea on account of its convenience to the leases of several companies and there is demand for houses for rent that cannot be supplied.

The main streets are now graded and oiled and placed in first class condition. Construction work is going on in the residence portion and the business section. Several houses are nearing completion and new firms will be ready to open for business in a short time.

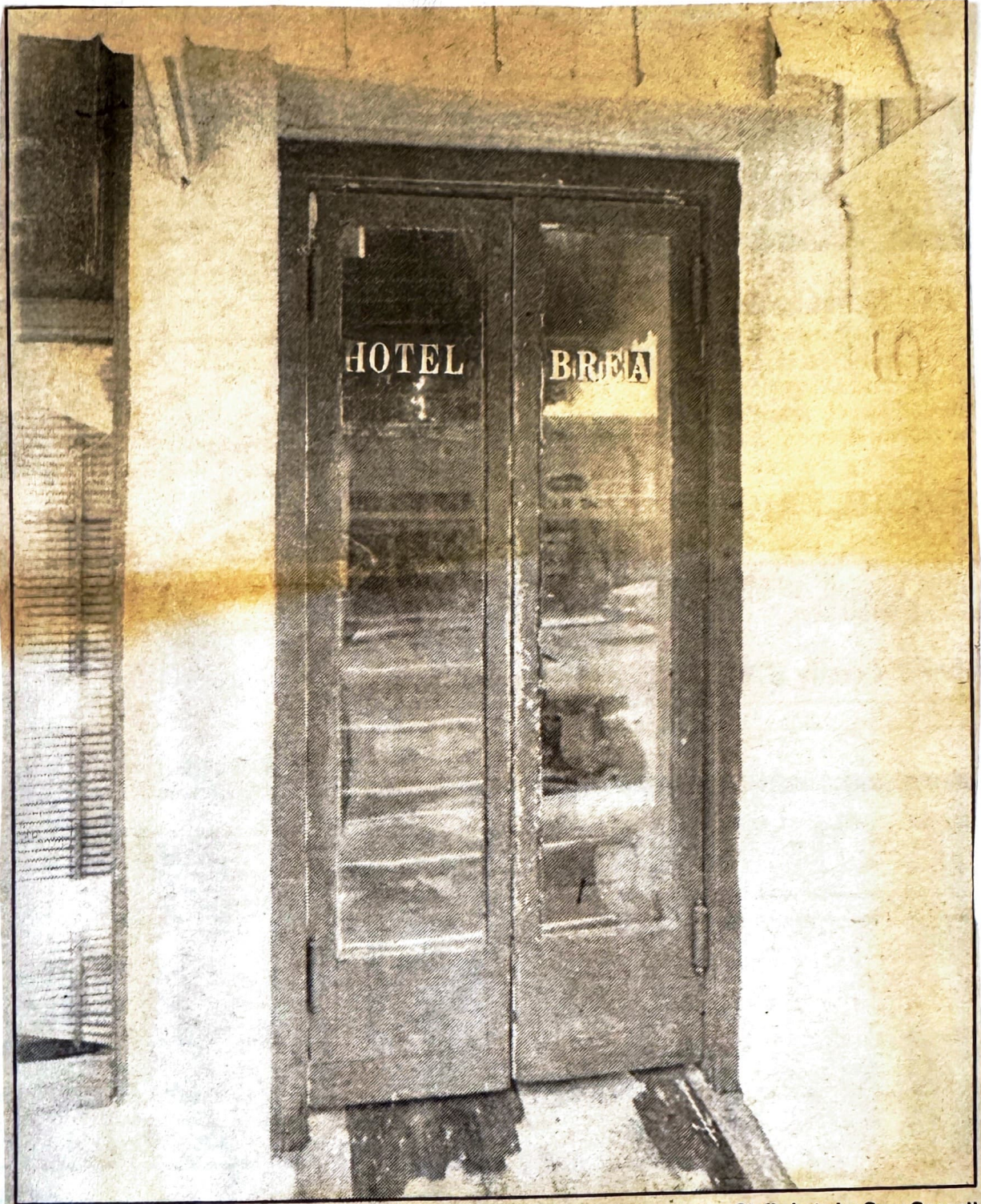
Banks to Open

The Brea Bank will probably be ready for business about the first of next month. Completion of the building is being rushed. When finished it will be one of the most attractive bank (homes) in the southland. C. R. Thomas is the head of the institution.

A hotel building will be erected in a short time containing not less than 16 rooms. It will be managed by Mrs. Nellie F. Alford who has opened the Brea cafe and is now feeding about fifty a day. A number of the oil boys are taking meals with Mrs. Alford and transient business is also good. The new hotel will be strictly modern and rates reasonable. Mrs. Alford was formerly in the Maricopa fields and is a popular caterer.



1989



Staff photo by Gary Gossett

**Taxing situation:** Hotel customers will pay more for lodging when the Transient Occupancy Tax increase from 8 to 10 percent goes into effect Oct. 1. It is expected to generate \$43,000 in additional revenue.

Brea Star

Mon Nov 10, 1919

W. A. Engle, former owner of the Brea Hotel, & now residing in Los Angeles was visiting old friends in Brea the latter part of ~~the~~ last week

B.P. Fri June 17, 1938

## Helmick Opening Brea Dairy Store

Brea has an entirely new business today. It is the Brea Dairy Products store, and the opening is being held today by the owner, Carl F. Helmick, in the Brea Hotel room at 104 North Pomona avenue.

In addition to milk, Mr. Helmick will handle all kinds of milk products — buttermilk, cream, cottage cheese and butter, and eggs. He is extending an invitation to the public to call this opening day.

May 22, 1919

Local Happenings

The Brea Hotel is sporting a new transparent electric sign above the doorway

BP

Fri Dec 7, 1945

Brea Will Have P. E. Bus Depot

The Brea Hotel will be the office and depot for P. E. Bus lines possibly beginning Sunday, December 9th. Mrs. Blanche Duran of the hotel, will act as agent, with an office on the first floor and waiting rooms and restrooms adjoining.

She reported that she will have all preliminaries completed by tomorrow night, and hopes that the bus company will be able to use the depot immediately.

Bree Hotel

~~same date~~

~~TOCT~~ May 29, 1912

The hotel which has been leased to Mrs. ~~Alford~~ Alford is fast nearing completion. It is located adjoining the Rudolph drug store. Mrs. Alford reports that the cafe is having a good business.

Thurs Feb 23, 1950

BP Have you seen what's happened to the space formerly occupied by Thelma's Cafe? Mrs. Wright, owner of the building (Brea Hotel building), is having the front moved out flush with the sidewalk. It will make a more usable space for office or storeroom.